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COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE INFORMATION BUREAU OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE  
REGARDING THE INTERVIEW BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTER NOMURA  
AND AMERICAN AMBASSADOR GREW

December 18, 1939.

The Foreign Minister, Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura, requested the American Ambassador, Mr. Joseph C. Grew, to call on him at 3:30 p.m. today, December 18. Continuing their discussion of the various questions which have arisen between Japan and the United States in the course of the China Affair for one hour and a half, they held conversations in a mutually constructive spirit for the purpose of surmounting obstacles of Japanese-American friendly relations.

In the interview Foreign Minister Nomura communicated to Ambassador Grew that, in view of the fact that the absolute military requirements calling for the closure of the lower Yangtze River area have become amenable to gradual modification, the Japanese forces have accordingly decided to make preparations with a view to lifting the ban on the navigation of the Yangtze from Nanking downward under certain restrictions for the maintenance of peace and order and for military operations.

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of 1 page and entitled "Communique issued by the Information Bureau of the Foreign Office regarding the interview between Foreign Minister Nomura and American Ambassador New," is an exact and true copy of an official translation of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,

on this 13th day of January, 1947

K. Hayashi

Signature of Official

Witness: T. Sato